

Mickleover Methodist Church September 2020

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September is the start of a new Methodist year, and it does feel as though we are starting afresh this year as we plan for re-opening the building for worship. The form of service will not be the same because it cannot be due to Covid19 restrictions, but God is the same, he is a great God and worthy of praise. When there is change all round, we can depend on him for *'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.'* (Heb 13:8)

20/21 is a **Year of Prayer** in the Methodist Church. There will be a short weekly online service each Tuesday lunchtime at 12.45pm for 15 minutes on Zoom and Facebook (see The Methodist Church website for more details).

Trey Hall, Director of Evangelism and Growth, said: "This Year of Prayer is a special time, a called out time, for the whole Church to be disciplined and intentional about seeking God's will, God's purpose, God's dream for the world. And doing that together.

"The world can feel like it's falling apart – not only due to COVID, but also due to systemic injustice, racism, to climate change, to political instability. And if we as the Church are going respond in any meaningful way with love, with humility, with courage, if we're really going to be in mission and service in this broken and beautiful world, we need more than ever to pray, we need to call upon God for healing and renewal and wisdom."

Let us join together in prayer so that we *'may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God.'* (Col 1:10) and through us others may come to know God's healing and transforming love.

Revd Gill

Church Council meeting 25th August 2020

Church Council met on Tuesday 25th August 2020 to discuss the re-opening of the Church building for worship and community use.

Before the meeting Covid 19 Risk Assessments for worship and prayer in Church and for community activities and documents relating to Action Plans were circulated to members. The Covid 19 Risk Assessments have been prepared corporately by the Mickleover Methodist Church Business Team on behalf of Church Council as Management Trustees.

The implementation of the Risk Assessments and associated Action Plans will constitute Covid 19 secure arrangements for the protection of all users and visitors to the Church Centre.

Worship and Prayer

The Church Centre is to be re-opened and brought back into use as a place of worship and prayer. The following Covid 19 precautions will be in place based on the risk assessment for meeting for worship and prayer:

- Hand sanitisers to be used on entry to Church centre and at regular times during visit.
- Face coverings to be worn unless exempt.
- Social distancing of 2 metres must be maintained generally, 1 metre distance when 2 metres not possible.
- No contact between people such as embracing or shaking hands.
- Vestry team will direct people to their seats, the layout pre- configured for social distancing.
- People may only sit with those of the same household or support bubble.
- Capacity limited to 40 people. Overspill in Wesley Room/Large Hall where the service is relayed via Church AV network.
- Entrance via the front door. People directed to exit immediately the service is finished via centre aisle, filing out via vestibule doors at front of Chapel.
- No congregational singing. Maximum length of service 45 minutes. All words displayed on screen. No fresh flowers in Church.
- No Sunday school or creche facilities at present. Young children must be supervised by parent or guardian at all times.

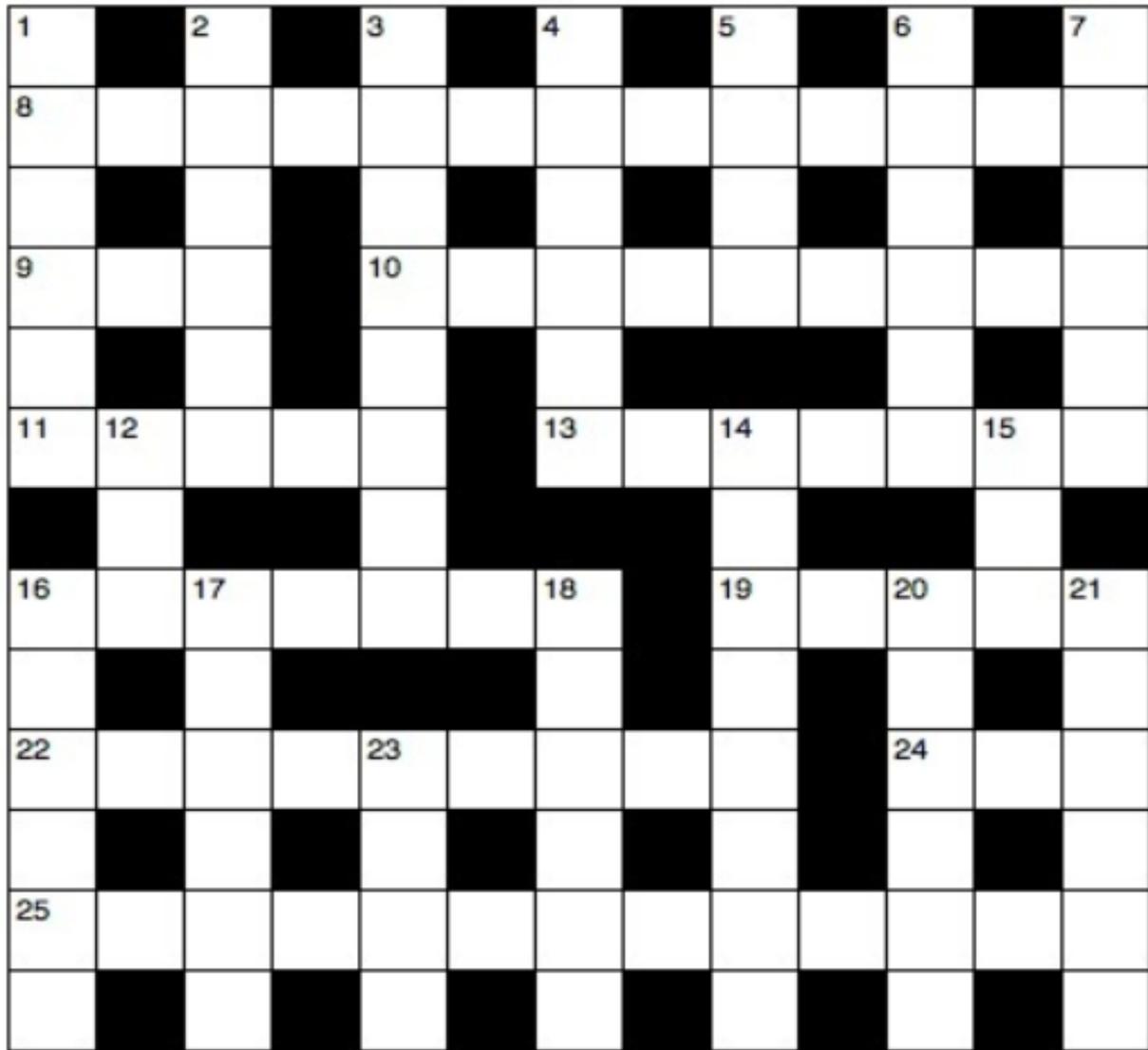
- Readers read from screen/printed service sheet/own Bible, from their seat using handheld microphones.
- No hanging up of coats. Take coats into Church and put under seat.
- Only the disabled toilet will be in use during this time.
- **Communion** – no communion rail in place, no physical passing of the peace, social distancing to be maintained. Bread will be dropped into open hands at arm's length. Communicants to take the glass of wine from the tray themselves and empty glasses returned to a separate tray. Distribution of the elements in silence.
- Morning service to continue on Zoom for the time being. Worship @ 4, Spark to a Flame and Messy Church will continue to meet on Zoom.

Community use;

- Church based and external user groups must prepare their own specific Covid 19 Risk Assessments and Action Plans based upon their particular use of the building, taking into account the overall Church Centre Covid 19 Risk Assessments and the multi purpose community facilities Action Plan prepared by the Church Business Team. and submit them to the same Business Team for assessment before they can start.
- Booking of room times of arrivals and departures to be monitored. Those times when pre-school are arriving and departing to be avoided by other users
- Rooms and facilities are used by different groups meeting simultaneously. There should an awareness of the maximum number of people allowed in the building at any one time and numbers monitored.
- All groups to have a signed agreement for hire/booking of rooms referring to adherence to their and Church's Covid 19 Action Plans and setting out their responsibilities.
- Signage throughout the building with reminders of Covid 19 precautions.

Church Council voted in favour, using all the Covid 19 precautions in the worship and prayer Covid 19 Action Plan, of opening Church for worship and prayer as soon as the area has been deep cleaned and precautions put in place, hopefully by the beginning of September. Watch out for updates on progress.

Church Council voted in favour of re-opening the centre for community use subject to the users meeting requirements agreed upon.



Across

- 8 Where the Ark of the Covenant was kept for 20 years (1 Samuel 7:1) (7,6)
- 9 One of the parts of the body on which blood and oil were put in the ritual cleansing from infectious skin diseases (Leviticus 14:14–17) (3)
- 10 Uncomfortable (3,2,4) 11 ‘Yet I have loved Jacob, but Esau I have — ’ (Malachi 1:3) (5)
- 13 Where Paul said farewell to the elders of the church in Ephesus (Acts 20:17) (7)
- 16 ‘Jesus bent down and — to write on the ground with his finger’ (John 8:6) (7)
- 19 Prophet from Moresheth (Jeremiah 26:18) (5)
- 22 Comes between Exodus and Numbers (9)

24 and 2 Down 'Then Elkanah went home to Ramah, but the boy ministered before the Lord under — the — ' (1 Samuel 2:11) (3,6)

25 There was no room for them in the inn (Luke 2:7) (4,3,6)

Down

1 Rough drawing (2 Kings 16:10) (6)

2 See 24 Across

3 Underground literature (including Christian books) circulated in the Soviet Union (8)

4 Lo, mash (anag.) (6)

5 The Bible's shortest verse: 'Jesus — ' (John 11:35) (4)

6 'Can a mother forget the baby at her — and have no compassion on the child she has borne?' (Isaiah 49:15) (6)

7 Can be seen in a dying fire (Psalm 102:3) (6)

12 'Send me, therefore, a man... experienced in the — of engraving, to work in Judah and Jerusalem' (2 Chronicles 2:7) (3)

14 Second city of Cyprus (8)

15 United Nations Association (1,1,1)

16 One of the women who first heard that Jesus had risen from the dead (Mark 16:1) (6)

17 Braved (anag.) (6)

18 — of Evangelism, outreach initiative in the 1990s (6)

20 'Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and — in their own sight' (Isaiah 5:21) (6)

21 'Neither — nor depth will be able to separate us from the love of God' (Romans 8:39) (6)

23 What Jesus shed in 5 Down (4)

Answers for this crossword and last month's virtual quiz

in next month's Church magazine

The All We Can 2020/21 campaign

Change begins with a bicycle.

A harvest like never before

Over the last few months, we have all seen change in many areas of our lives. Much of that change has been difficult – but some of it has also been encouraging and even inspiring as each of us, our communities and our churches have found ways to respond to the impact of this global pandemic.

This year, All We Can is raising funds for Change Begins to support a story of change for communities like Butagaya in Uganda for young people like Nawalat. It takes her two hours to walk to school every day. For her, change begins with a bicycle – she can now, thanks to All We Can, cycle to school making her journey faster and safer and allowing her to get the education she needs to become a nurse one day.

The bikes we have can seem ordinary to us. We use them without thinking. They get us to places, from A to B. They are fun to ride. But for children like Nawalat, they become so much more than just a mode of transportation. The bike allows her to get to school which allows her to learn and follow her dreams. It becomes a tool for transformation.

For communities like Butagaya a bicycle represents so much more than a mode of transportation. As well as allowing young girls to travel safely to school to access education it provides a family with the means to travel to the markets to buy and sell produce; it provides transportation to access health care. The wheels of change are turning as access to this simple tool is helping to break the cycle of poverty.

Jane's Blooming Great Tea Party in aid of Marie Curie was unable to take place this year. However Jane continued to sell her jams and chutneys and raised £870. A huge thankyou to everyone who gave donations. Jane's jars of jam and chutneys are available all year round and monies will go towards next year's total. Contact Jane at janelimnert4@gmail.com to find out what is available..

Happiness is....

Watching some of the adverts on TV recently (let`s face it they are better than some of the programmes!), I am led to believe that happiness is

A McDonald`s Big Mac (other fat foods are available - & that was not a misprint!)

Playing online Bingo

A car that virtually drives itself

Signing up for life insurance.

This made me wonder what makes me truly happy now that restrictions are being eased somewhat and we all have had to rethink and adjust the way we live. It has certainly altered my outlook on life and understand what makes me happy. Here are one or two of my thoughts :-

Sitting in quiet companionship. Listening to Greig`s music and visualising the Norwegian fjords. Watching Freddie playing in the garden in his new tree house and slipping into his room to watch as he sleeps peacefully. Meeting with close family and friends – socially distanced, of course.

All of the above make me not only happy, which can be a fleeting sensation, but also a feeling of deep contentment. I have realised that it is very often the simple pleasures in life which give us that indescribable feeling of warmth.

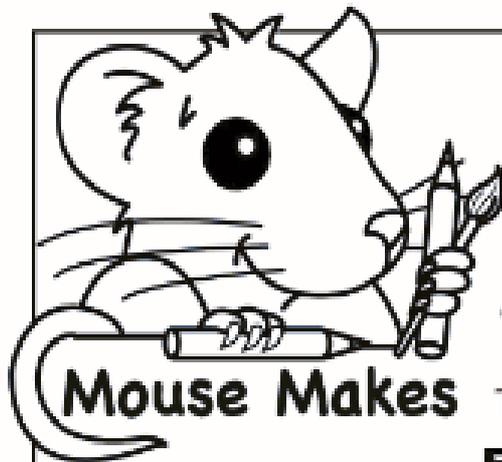
How has the Corona situation affected the way you look at life and what are the aspects in your life which make you truly happy?

It`s worth giving it some thought.

Phil Royle

Peace Walk - On Wednesday 23 September at 3 pm meet outside St Thomas`s C of E (Pear Tree Road, DE23 8NQ) for a one hour long socially distanced walk from that Christian church via a Hindu Temple, a Sikh Gurdwara and a Muslim mosque to Arboretum Park. Outside each place of worship a person of that faith will make a brief comment and/or say a prayer about Peace. Please bring a mask or other face covering.

To register contact [-peace-week-walk.eventbrite.co.uk](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/peace-week-walk)



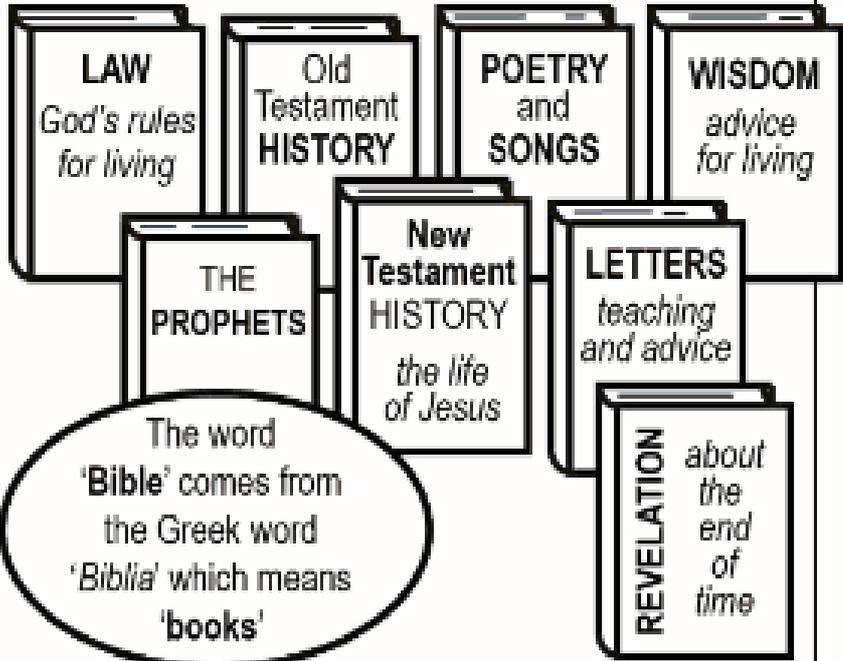
The **Bible** is a collection of **books** that took over 2,000 years to write! The books were written by many different people, all helped and inspired by God. The Bible has books about:

There are **66** books in the Bible. How many can you name?

BIBLE WORDS

The Bible words in **BOLD** type on this page are also hidden in the word search, can you find them?

P L B O W I K
 R I O S I L G
 O G O N S W O
 P H K E D O L
 H T S W O R D
 E R L T M D O
 T E A E G O D
 S V W S E E D
 L E T T E R S
 T L W A N L O
 H A M M E R N
 O T I E H I G
 N I R N I R S
 E O R T S A B
 Y N O R T I I
 F I R E O N B
 P O E T R Y L
 F O O D Y O E



The word '**Bible**' comes from the Greek word '*Biblia*' which means '**books**'

God speaks to us today as we read the Bible. The Bible encourages us, corrects us and shows us how to live, it also describes itself as:

- Mirror**
James 1:23
- Food**
Hebrews 5:12- 6:1
- Honey and Gold**
Psalm 19:10
- Light**
Psalm 119:105
- Rain**
Isaiah 55:10-12
- Seed**
Mark 4:14
- Hammer**
Jeremiah 23:29
- Fire**
Jeremiah 20:9
- Sword**
Ephesians 6:17
- "God said..."**
Living Word
Hebrews 4:12

...but most of all The Bible teaches us about **God** and how we can be friends with Him.